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OFFICIAL  
STANDARD GRADES

# DARK AIR-CURED TOBACCO

U.S. TYPES 35, 36, and 37



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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OFFICIAL STANDARD GRADES FOR DARK AIR-CURED TOBACCO  
(U.S. Types 35, 36, and 37)

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OFFICIAL STANDARD GRADES FOR DARK AIR-CURED TOBACCO  
(U.S. Types 35, 36, and 37)

DEFINITIONS

Definitions. As used in these standards, the words and phrases hereinafter defined shall have the indicated meanings so assigned.

Air-cured. Tobacco cured under natural atmospheric conditions without the use of fire, except for the purpose of preventing pole-burn in damp weather.

Air-dried. The condition of unfermented tobacco as customarily prepared for storage under natural atmospheric conditions.

Body. The thickness and density of a leaf or the weight per unit of surface. (See Elements of Quality, p. 7.)

Brown colors. A group of colors ranging from a light brown to a dark brown. These colors vary from medium to low saturation and from medium to very low brilliance. As used in these standards, the colors are expressed as light brown (L), medium brown (F), reddish brown (R), and dark brown (D).

Class. A major division of tobacco based on method of cure or principal usage.

Clean. Tobacco is described as clean when it contains only a normal amount of sand or soil particles. Leaves grown on the lower portion of the stalk normally contain more dirt or sand than those from higher stalk positions. (See rule 4, p. 9.)

Color. The third factor of a grade based on the relative hues, saturations or chromas, and color values common to the type.

Color intensity. The varying degree of saturation or chroma. Color intensity as applied to tobacco describes the strength or weakness of a specific color or hue. It is applicable to all colors except green. (See Elements of Quality, p. 7.)

Color symbols. As applied to Dark Air-cured tobacco, color symbols are L--light brown, F--medium brown, R--reddish brown, D--dark brown, M--mixed, and G--green.

Condition. The state of tobacco which results from the method of preparation or from the degree of fermentation. Words used to describe the condition of tobacco are: Undried, air-dried, steam-dried, sweating, sweated, and aged.

Crude. A subdegree of maturity. Crude leaves are usually hard and slick as a result of extreme immaturity. A similar condition may result from fire-kill, sunburn, or sunscald. Any leaf which is crude to the extent of 20 percent or more of its leaf surface may be described as crude. (See rule 20, p. 10.)

Cured. Tobacco dried of its sap by either natural or artificial processes.

Damage. The effect of mold, must, rot, black rot, or other fungus or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. Tobacco having the odor of mold, must, or rot is considered damaged. (See rule 24, p. 11.)

Dirty. The state of tobacco containing an abnormal amount of dirt or sand, or tobacco to which additional quantities of dirt or sand have been added. (See rule 24, p. 11.)

Elasticity. The flexible, springy nature of the tobacco leaf to recover approximately its original size and shape after it has been stretched. (See Elements of Quality, p. 7.)

Finish. The reflectance factor in color perception. Finish indicates the sheen or shine of the surface of a tobacco leaf. (See Elements of Quality, p. 7.)

Foreign matter. Any extraneous substance or material such as stalks, suckers, straw, strings, and rubber bands. Abnormal amounts of dirt or sand are also included. (See rule 24, p. 11.)

Form. The stage of preparation of tobacco such as unstemmed or stemmed.

Grade. A subdivision of a type according to group, quality, and color.

Grademark. A grademark normally consists of three symbols which indicate group, quality, and color. A letter is used to indicate group, a number to indicate quality, and a letter or letters to indicate color. For example, B3D means Heavy Leaf, third quality, and dark-brown color.

Green (G). A term applied to green-colored, immature, or crude tobacco. Any leaf which has a green color affecting 20 percent or more of its leaf surface may be described as green. (See rule 19, p. 10.)

Group. A division of a type covering closely related grades based on certain characteristics which are related to stalk position, body, or the general quality of the tobacco. Groups in Dark Air-cured types are: Wrappers (A), Heavy Leaf (B), Thin Leaf (C), Tips (T), Lugs (X), Nondescript (N), and Scrap (S).



Injury. Hurt or impairment from any cause except the fungus or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. (See definition of Damage, p. 2.) Injury to tobacco may be caused by field diseases, insects, or weather conditions; insecticides, fungicides, or cell growth inhibitors; nutritional deficiencies or excesses; or improper fertilizing, harvesting, curing, or handling. Injured tobacco includes dead, burned, hail-cut, torn, broken, frostbitten, sunburned, sunscalded, scorched, fire-killed, bulk-burnt, steam-burnt, house-burnt, bleached, bruised, discolored, or deformed leaves; or tobacco affected by wildfire, rust, frog-eye, mosaic, root rot, wilt, black shank, or other diseases. (See rule 15, p. 10.)

Leaf scrap. A byproduct of unstemmed tobacco. Leaf scrap results from handling unstemmed tobacco and consists of loose and tangled whole or broken leaves.

Leaf structure. The cell development of a leaf as indicated by its porosity. (See Elements of Quality, p. 7.)

Leaf surface. The roughness or smoothness of the web or lamina of a tobacco leaf. Leaf surface is affected to some extent by the size and shrinkage of the veins or fibers. (See Elements of Quality, p. 7.)

Length. The linear measurement of cured tobacco leaves from the butt of the midrib to the extreme tip. (See U.S. Standard Tobacco 4-Inch Sizes, p. 8.)

Lot. A pile, basket, bulk, or more than one bale, case, hogshead, tierce, package, or other definite package unit.

Maturity. The degree of ripeness. (See Elements of Quality, p. 7, and rule 16, p. 10.)

Mixed (M). Variegated or distinctly different colors of the type mingled together. (See rules 17 and 18, p. 10.)

Nested. Any tobacco which has been loaded, packed, or arranged to conceal foreign matter or tobacco of inferior grade, quality, or condition. Nested includes: (a) Any lot of tobacco which contains foreign matter or damaged, injured, tangled, or other inferior tobacco, any of which cannot be readily detected upon inspection because of the way the lot is packed or arranged; (b) any lot of tied tobacco which contains foreign matter in the inner portions of the hands or which contains foreign matter in the heads under the tie leaves; (c) any lot of tied tobacco in which the leaves on the outside of the hands are placed or arranged to conceal inferior quality leaves on the inside of the hands or which contains wet tobacco or tobacco of lower quality in the heads under the tie leaves; and (d) any lot of tobacco which consists of distinctly different grades, qualities, or conditions and which is stacked or arranged in layers with the same kinds together so that the tobacco in the lower layer or layers is distinctly inferior in grade, quality, or condition from the tobacco in the top or upper layers. (See rule 24, p. 11.)

No Grade. A designation applied to a lot of tobacco classified as nested, offtype, rework, or semicured; tobacco that is damaged 20 percent or more, abnormally dirty, extremely wet or watered, contains foreign matter, or has an odor foreign to the type. (See rule 24, p. 11.)

Offtype. Tobacco of distinctly different characteristics which cannot be classified as Dark Air-cured, U.S. Type 35, 36, or 37. (See rule 24, p. 11.)

Order (case). The state of tobacco with respect to its moisture content.

Package. A hogshead, tierce, case, bale, or other securely enclosed parcel or bundle.

Packing. A lot of tobacco consisting of a number of packages submitted as one definite unit for sampling or inspecting. It is represented to contain the same kind of tobacco and has a common identification number or mark on each package.

Quality. A division of a group or the second factor of a grade based on the relative degree of one or more elements of quality in tobacco.

Raw. Freshly harvested tobacco or tobacco as it appears between the time of harvesting and the beginning of the curing process.

Resweated. The condition of tobacco which has passed through a second fermentation under abnormally high temperatures or refermented with a relatively high percentage of moisture. Resweated includes tobacco which has been dipped or reconditioned after its first fermentation and put through a forced or artificial sweat.

Rework. Any lot of tobacco which needs to be resorted or otherwise reworked to prepare it properly for market in the manner which is customary in the type area, including: (a) Tobacco which is so mixed that it cannot be classified properly in any grade of the type, because the lot contains a substantial quantity of two or more distinctly different grades which should be separated by sorting; (b) tobacco which contains an abnormally large quantity of foreign matter or an unusual number of muddy or extremely dirty leaves which should be removed; and (c) tobacco not tied in hands, not packed straight, not properly tied, or otherwise not properly prepared for market. (See rule 24, p. 11.)

Semicured. Tobacco in the process of being cured or which is partially but not thoroughly cured. Semicured includes tobacco which contains fat stems, wet butts, swelled stems, frozen tobacco, and tobacco having frozen stems or stems that have not been thoroughly dried in the curing process. (See rule 24, p. 11.)

Side. A certain phase of quality, color, or length as contrasted with some other phase of quality, color, or length; or any peculiar characteristic of tobacco.

Size. The length of tobacco leaves. (See U.S. Standard Tobacco 4-Inch Sizes, p. 8.)

Sound. Free of damage.

Special factor. A symbol or term authorized to designate a peculiar side or characteristic which tends to modify a grade. (See rules 21, 22, and 23, p. 11.)

Steam-dried. The condition of unfermented tobacco as customarily prepared for storage by means of a redrying machine or other steam-conditioning equipment.

Stem. The midrib or large central vein of a tobacco leaf.

Stemmed. A form of tobacco, including strips and strip scrap, from which the stems or midribs have been removed.

Strips. The sides of a tobacco leaf from which the stem has been removed or a lot of tobacco composed of strips.

Subgrade. Any grade modified by a special factor symbol.

Sweated. The condition of tobacco which has passed through one or more fermentations natural to tobacco packed with a normal percentage of moisture. This condition is sometimes described as aged.

Sweating. The condition of tobacco in the process of fermentation.

Tobacco. Tobacco as it appears between the time it is cured and stripped from the stalk, or primed and cured, and the time it enters into the different manufacturing processes. The acts of stemming, sweating, and conditioning are not regarded as manufacturing processes. Tobacco, as used in these standards, does not include manufactured or semimanufactured products, stems, cuttings, clippings, trimmings, siftings, or dust.

Tobacco products. Manufactured tobacco, including cigarettes, cigars, smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco, and snuff, which is subject to Internal Revenue tax.

Type. A division of a class of tobacco having certain common characteristics and closely related grades. Tobacco which has the same characteristics and corresponding qualities, colors, and lengths is classified as one type, regardless of any factors of historical or geographical nature which cannot be determined by an examination of the tobacco.

Type 35. That type of air-cured tobacco commonly known as One Sucker Air-cured, Kentucky-Tennessee-Indiana One Sucker, or Dark Air-cured One Sucker, including the upper Cumberland District One Sucker, and produced principally in northern Tennessee, south central Kentucky, and southern Indiana.



Type 36. That type of air-cured tobacco commonly known as Green River, Green River Air-cured, or Dark Air-cured of the Henderson and Owensboro Districts, and produced principally in the Green River section of Kentucky.

Type 37. That type of air-cured or sun-cured tobacco commonly known as Virginia Sun-cured, Virginia Sun and Air-cured, or Dark Air-cured of Virginia, and produced principally in the central section of Virginia north of the James River.

Undried. The condition of unfermented tobacco which has not been air-dried or steam-dried.

Uniformity. An element of quality which describes the consistency of a lot of tobacco as it is prepared for market. Uniformity is expressed in grade specifications as a percentage. The percentage is applicable to group, quality, and color. (See rule 14, p. 10.)

Unsound (U). Damaged under 20 percent. (See rule 21, p. 11.)

Unstemmed. A form of tobacco, including whole leaf and leaf scrap, from which the stems or midribs have not been removed.

Variegated. Any leaf of which 20 percent or more of its leaf surface is off brown, grayish, mottled, or bleached and does not blend with the normal colors of the type. (See rules 17 and 18, p. 10.)

Wet (W). Any sound tobacco containing excessive moisture to the extent that it is in unsafe- or doubtful-keeping order. Wet applies to any tobacco which is not damaged but which is likely to damage if treated in the customary manner. (See rule 22, p. 11.) (For extremely wet or watered tobacco, see rule 24, p. 11.)

Width. The relative breadth of a tobacco leaf expressed in relation to its length. (See Elements of Quality, p. 7.)

ELEMENTS OF QUALITY AND DEGREES OF EACH ELEMENT  
Dark Air-cured Tobacco, U.S. Types 35, 36, and 37

These standardized words or terms are used to describe tobacco quality and to assist in interpreting grade specifications. Tobacco attributes or characteristics which constitute quality are designated as elements of quality. The range within each element is expressed by the use of words or terms designated as degrees. These several degrees are arranged to show their relative value, but the actual value of each degree varies with type, group, and grade.

ELEMENTS		DEGREES		
MATURITY	Immature	Underripe	Mature	Ripe
BODY		Thin	Medium	Heavy
LEAF STRUCTURE		Close	Firm	Open
LEAF SURFACE		Rough	Crepy	Smooth
OIL		Lean	Oily	Rich
FINISH		Dull	Normal	Clear
COLOR INTENSITY		Pale	Moderate	Deep
ELASTICITY		Inelastic	Semielastic	Elastic
WIDTH		Narrow	Normal	Spready
UNIFORMITY		<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
INJURY TOLERANCE		<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>

1/ Expressed in percentage.



SIZES  
Dark Air-cured Tobacco, U.S. Types 35, 36, and 37

U.S. Standard Tobacco 4-Inch Sizes <sup>1/</sup>

<u>Inches</u>	<u>U.S. sizes</u>	<u>Approximate centimeters</u>
32		80
	47	
28		70
	46	
24		60
	45	
20		50
	44	
16		40
	43	
12		30
	42	
8		20
	41	
4		10
	40	
0		0

<sup>1/</sup> Regular 4-inch sizes are used to state length when this factor is not sufficiently important to use 1- or 2-inch sizes. Seventy-five percent of the leaves in a lot or package of any 4-inch size must fall within the range for that size. For example: If a lot or package of tobacco is represented to be of U.S. size 44, then 75 percent of the leaves of such lot or package must be between 16 and 20 inches (or 40 and 50 centimeters) in length.

## RULES

Rules. The application of these official standard grades shall be in accordance with the following rules.

Rule 1. Each grade shall be treated as a subdivision of a particular type. When the grade is stated in an inspection certificate, the type also shall be stated.

Rule 2. The determination of a grade shall be based upon a thorough examination of a lot of tobacco or of an official sample of the lot.

Rule 3. In drawing an official sample from a hogshead or other package of tobacco, three or more breaks shall be made at such points and in such manner as the inspector or sampler may find necessary to determine the kinds of tobacco and the percentage of each kind contained in the lot. All breaks shall be made so that the tobacco contained in the center of the package is visible to the sampler. Tobacco shall be drawn from at least three breaks from which a representative sample of not less than six hands shall be selected. The sample shall include tobacco of each different group, quality, color, length, and kind found in the lot in proportion to the quantities of each contained in the lot.

Rule 4. All standard grades must be clean.

Rule 5. The grade assigned to any lot of tobacco shall be a true representation of the tobacco at the time of inspection and certification. If, at any time, it is found that a lot of tobacco does not comply with the specifications of the grade previously assigned it shall not thereafter be represented as such grade.

Rule 6. A lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two colors shall be placed in the color with which it best corresponds with respect to body or other associated elements of quality.

Rule 7. Any lot of tobacco which meets the specifications of two grades shall be placed in the higher grade. Any lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two grades shall be placed in the lower grade.

Rule 8. A lot of tobacco meets the specifications of a grade when it is not lower in any degree of any element of quality than the minimum specifications of such grade.

Rule 9. In determining the grade of a lot of tobacco, the lot as a whole shall be considered. Minor irregularities which do not affect over one percent of the tobacco shall be overlooked.

Rule 10. Any special factor approved by the Director of the Tobacco Division, Consumer and Marketing Service, may be used after a grademark to show a peculiar side or characteristic of the tobacco which tends to modify the grade.

Rule 11. Interpretations, the use of specifications, and the meaning of the terms shall be in accordance with determinations or clarifications made by the Chief of the Standards and Testing Branch and approved by the Director.

Rule 12. The use of any grade may be restricted by the Director during any marketing season, when it is found that the grade is not needed or appears in insufficient volume to justify its use.

Rule 13. Length shall be stated in connection with each grade of the A, B, and C groups and may be stated in connection with grades of other groups. For this purpose, the regular 4-inch series of U.S. standard tobacco sizes shall be used. (See Applicable U.S. Standard Sizes, p. 24.)

Rule 14. Degrees of uniformity shall be expressed in terms of percentages. The percentages shall govern the portion of a lot which must meet the specifications of the grade. The minor portion must be closely related but may be of a different group, quality, and color from the major portion. These percentages shall not affect limitations established by other rules.

Rule 15. The application of injury as an element of quality shall be expressed in terms of a percentage of tolerance. The appraisal of injury shall be based upon the percentage of affected leaf surface or the degree of injury. In appraising injury, consideration shall be given to the normal characteristics of the group as related to injury.

Rule 16. Normal injury associated with ripeness shall be excluded from injury tolerance except when such injury is considered detrimental to the quality of the tobacco.

Rule 17. Any lot of tobacco which is not green but contains over 30 percent of variegated leaves shall be described as "variegated" and designated by the color symbol "M." Variegated leaves may be included in any group to the following extent: in the third quality, 10 percent; in the fourth quality, 20 percent; and in the fifth quality, 30 percent.

Rule 18. Any lot of tobacco of the B, C, T, or X groups shall be classified as "mixed" and designated by the color symbol "M" when it is not green but contains (a) over 30 percent of colors distinctly different from the major color or (b) over 30 percent of a combination of variegated and colors distinctly different from the major mingled together.

Rule 19. Any lot of tobacco containing 20 percent or more of green leaves or any lot which is not crude but contains 20 percent or more of green and crude combined shall be designated by the color symbol "G."

Rule 20. Crude leaves shall not be included in any grade of any color except the fourth and fifth qualities of the B, C, T, and X groups in green color. Any lot containing 20 percent or more of crude leaves shall be designated as Nondescript.



Rule 21. Tobacco damaged under 20 percent but which otherwise meets the specifications of a grade shall be treated as a subgrade by placing the special factor "U" after the grademark. Tobacco damaged 20 percent or more shall be designated "No-G."

Rule 22. Sound tobacco that is wet or in doubtful-keeping order but which otherwise meets the specifications of a grade shall be treated as a subgrade by placing the special factor "W" after the grademark. This special factor does not apply to tobacco designated "No-G."

Rule 23. Special factors "BH" (big heads) and "BL" (broad leaf) shall be used as follows: "BH" in types 35 and 36 to designate tobacco tied in extremely big hands and "BL" in type 35 to designate broad leaf tobacco.

Rule 24. Tobacco shall be designated as No Grade, using the grademark "No-G," when it is dirty, nested, offtype, semicured, damaged 20 percent or more, extremely wet or watered, or when it needs to be reworked, contains foreign matter, or has an odor foreign to the type.

## GRADES

Wrappers (A Group). This group consists of leaves from the Heavy Leaf and the Thin Leaf groups. Cured leaves of the A group are very elastic, have small- to medium-sized and blending fibers, and show a low percentage of injury affecting wrapper yield.

U.S.

Grades                      Grade Names, Minimum Specifications, and Tolerances

A1F              Choice Quality Medium-brown Wrappers

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, elastic, spready, and 20 percent of leaves not lower than B2 or C2.

A2F              Fine Quality Medium-brown Wrappers

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, elastic, spready, and 30 percent of leaves not lower than B2 or C2.

A3F              Good Quality Medium-brown Wrappers

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, elastic, normal width, and 40 percent of leaves not lower than B3 or C3.

A1R      Choice Quality Reddish-brown Wrappers

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, elastic, spready, and 20 percent of leaves not lower than B2 or C2.

A2R      Fine Quality Reddish-brown Wrappers

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, elastic, spready, and 30 percent of leaves not lower than B2 or C2.

A3R      Good Quality Reddish-brown Wrappers

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, elastic, normal width, and 40 percent of leaves not lower than B3 or C3.

Heavy Leaf (B Group). This group consists of leaves which are medium to heavy in body and show little or no ground injury.

U.S.  
Grades                      Grade Names, Minimum Specifications, and Tolerances

B1F      Choice Quality Medium-brown Heavy Leaf

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

B2F      Fine Quality Medium-brown Heavy Leaf

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

B3F      Good Quality Medium-brown Heavy Leaf

Mature, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4F      Fair Quality Medium-brown Heavy Leaf

Mature, medium body, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.



B5F Low Quality Medium-brown Heavy Leaf

Underripe, medium body, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

B1R Choice Quality Reddish-brown Heavy Leaf

Ripe, heavy, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

B2R Fine Quality Reddish-brown Heavy Leaf

Ripe, heavy, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

B3R Good Quality Reddish-brown Heavy Leaf

Mature, heavy, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4R Fair Quality Reddish-brown Heavy Leaf

Mature, heavy, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

B5R Low Quality Reddish-brown Heavy Leaf

Underripe, heavy, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

B1D Choice Quality Dark-brown Heavy Leaf

Ripe, heavy, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, normal finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

B2D Fine Quality Dark-brown Heavy Leaf

Ripe, heavy, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, normal finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

B3D Good Quality Dark-brown Heavy Leaf

Mature, heavy, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4D Fair Quality Dark-brown Heavy Leaf

Mature, heavy, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

B5D Low Quality Dark-brown Heavy Leaf

Underripe, heavy, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

B3M Good Quality Mixed Heavy Leaf

Mature, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4M Fair Quality Mixed Heavy Leaf

Mature, medium body, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

B5M Low Quality Mixed Heavy Leaf

Underripe, medium body, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

B3G Good Quality Green Heavy Leaf

Underripe, heavy, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4G Fair Quality Green Heavy Leaf

Immature, medium body, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

B5G Low Quality Green Heavy Leaf

Immature, medium body, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

Thin Leaf (C Group). This group consists of leaves that are thin to medium in body and show little or no ground injury.

U.S.  
Grades                      Grade Names, Minimum Specifications, and Tolerances

C1L Choice Quality Light-brown Thin Leaf

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

C2L Fine Quality Light-brown Thin Leaf

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

C3L Good Quality Light-brown Thin Leaf

Mature, thin, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4L Fair Quality Light-brown Thin Leaf

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5L Low Quality Light-brown Thin Leaf

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

C1F Choice Quality Medium-brown Thin Leaf

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

C2F Fine Quality Medium-brown Thin Leaf

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

C3F Good Quality Medium-brown Thin Leaf

Mature, thin, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4F Fair Quality Medium-brown Thin Leaf

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5F Low Quality Medium-brown Thin Leaf

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

C1R Choice Quality Reddish-brown Thin Leaf

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

C2R Fine Quality Reddish-brown Thin Leaf

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, rich in oil, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, spready, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

C3R Good Quality Reddish-brown Thin Leaf

Mature, thin, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4R Fair Quality Reddish-brown Thin Leaf

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.



C5R Low Quality Reddish-brown Thin Leaf

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

C3M Good Quality Mixed Thin Leaf

Mature, thin, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4M Fair Quality Mixed Thin Leaf

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5M Low Quality Mixed Thin Leaf

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

C3G Good Quality Green Thin Leaf

Underripe, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4G Fair Quality Green Thin Leaf

Immature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5G Low Quality Green Thin Leaf

Immature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

Tips (T Group). This group consists of leaves usually grown near the top of the stalk and are too short to meet the specifications for U.S. size 44.



U.S.  
Grades

Grade Names, Minimum Specifications, and Tolerances

T3F      Good Quality Medium-brown Tips

Mature, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

T4F      Fair Quality Medium-brown Tips

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

T5F      Low Quality Medium-brown Tips

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

T3R      Good Quality Reddish-brown Tips

Mature, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

T4R      Fair Quality Reddish-brown Tips

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

T5R      Low Quality Reddish-brown Tips

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

T3D      Good Quality Dark-brown Tips

Mature, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

T4D      Fair Quality Dark-brown Tips

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

T5D Low Quality Dark-brown Tips

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

T3M Good Quality Mixed Tips

Mature, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, moderate color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

T4M Fair Quality Mixed Tips

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

T5M Low Quality Mixed Tips

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

T3G Good Quality Green Tips

Underripe, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, oily, normal finish, semielastic, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

T4G Fair Quality Green Tips

Immature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

T5G Low Quality Green Tips

Immature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

Lugs (X Group). This group consists of leaves that normally grow on the lower portion of the stalk. Leaves of the X group usually have a high degree of maturity and show ground and other injury characteristic of the group.

U.S.  
Grades                      Grade Names, Minimum Specifications, and Tolerances

X1L              Choice Quality Light-brown Lugs

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

X2L              Fine Quality Light-brown Lugs

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

X3L              Good Quality Light-brown Lugs

Mature, thin, firm leaf structure, crepy, lean in oil, normal finish, moderate color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4L              Fair Quality Light-brown Lugs

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5L              Low Quality Light-brown Lugs

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X1F              Choice Quality Medium-brown Lugs

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

X2F              Fine Quality Medium-brown Lugs

Ripe, thin, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

X3F              Good Quality Medium-brown Lugs

Mature, thin, firm leaf structure, crepy, lean in oil, normal finish, moderate color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4F Fair Quality Medium-brown Lugs

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5F Low Quality Medium-brown Lugs

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X1R Choice Quality Reddish-brown Lugs

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

X2R Fine Quality Reddish-brown Lugs

Ripe, medium body, open leaf structure, smooth, oily, clear finish, deep color intensity, semielastic, normal width, 85 percent uniform, and 15 percent injury tolerance.

X3R Good Quality Reddish-brown Lugs

Mature, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, lean in oil, normal finish, moderate color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4R Fair Quality Reddish-brown Lugs

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5R Low Quality Reddish-brown Lugs

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X3D Good Quality Dark-brown Lugs

Mature, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, lean in oil, normal finish, moderate color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.



X4D Fair Quality Dark-brown Lugs

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5D Low Quality Dark-brown Lugs

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X3M Good Quality Mixed Lugs

Mature, thin, firm leaf structure, crepy, lean in oil, normal finish, moderate color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4M Fair Quality Mixed Lugs

Mature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5M Low Quality Mixed Lugs

Underripe, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, pale color intensity, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X3G Good Quality Green Lugs

Underripe, medium body, firm leaf structure, crepy, lean in oil, normal finish, inelastic, narrow, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4G Fair Quality Green Lugs

Immature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, inelastic, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5G Low Quality Green Lugs

Immature, thin, close leaf structure, rough, lean in oil, dull finish, inelastic, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.



Nondescript (N Group). Extremely common tobacco which does not meet the minimum specifications or which exceeds the tolerance of the lower grade of any other group except Scrap.

U.S. Grades	Grade Names, Minimum Specifications, and Tolerances
N1L	First Quality Light-colored Nondescript  Thin to medium body and 60 percent injury tolerance.
N2L	Second Quality Light-colored Nondescript  Thin to medium body and over 60 percent injury tolerance.
N1R	First Quality Dark-colored Nondescript  Thin to heavy body and 60 percent injury tolerance.
N2R	Second Quality Dark-colored Nondescript  Thin to heavy body and over 60 percent injury tolerance.
N1G	First Quality Crude Green Nondescript  60 percent crude leaves or injury tolerance.
N2G	Second Quality Crude Green Nondescript  Over 60 percent crude leaves or injury tolerance.

Scrap (S Group). A byproduct of stemmed and unstemmed tobacco. Scrap accumulates from handling tobacco in farm buildings, warehouses, packing and conditioning plants, and stemmeries.

U.S. Grade	Grade Name and Specifications
S	Scrap  Loose, tangled, whole, or broken unstemmed leaves; or the web portions of tobacco leaves reduced to scrap by any process.

# SUMMARY OF STANDARD GRADES

## 6 Grades of Wrappers

A1F	A1R
A2F	A2R
A3F	A3R

## 21 Grades of Heavy Leaf

B1F	B1R	B1D		
B2F	B2R	B2D		
B3F	B3R	B3D	B3M	B3G
B4F	B4R	B4D	B4M	B4G
B5F	B5R	B5D	B5M	B5G

## 21 Grades of Thin Leaf

C1L	C1F	C1R		
C2L	C2F	C2R		
C3L	C3F	C3R	C3M	C3G
C4L	C4F	C4R	C4M	C4G
C5L	C5F	C5R	C5M	C5G

## 15 Grades of Tips

T3F	T3R	T3D	T3M	T3G
T4F	T4R	T4D	T4M	T4G
T5F	T5R	T5D	T5M	T5G

## 24 Grades of Lugs

X1L	X1F	X1R			
X2L	X2F	X2R			
X3L	X3F	X3R	X3D	X3M	X3G
X4L	X4F	X4R	X4D	X4M	X4G
X5L	X5F	X5R	X5D	X5M	X5G

## 6 Grades of Nondescript

N1L	N1R	N1G
N2L	N2R	N2G

## 1 Grade of Scrap

S

Special factors "U" and "W" may be applied to all grades in all types, "BH" to grades in types 35 and 36, and "BL" to type 35. Tobacco not covered by the standard grades is designated "No-G."

## APPLICABLE U.S. STANDARD SIZES

### Types 35 and 36

A1--A2--A3	45, 46, 47
B1--B2--B3--B4--B5	44, 45, 46, 47
C1--C2--C3--C4--C5	44, 45, 46, 47

### Type 37

A1--A2--A3	44, 45, 46
B1--B2--B3--B4--B5	44, 45, 46
C1--C2--C3--C4--C5	44, 45, 46

# KEY TO STANDARD GRADEMARKS

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Qualities</u>	<u>Colors</u>
A--Wrappers	1--Choice	L--Light brown
B--Heavy Leaf	2--Fine	F--Medium brown
C--Thin Leaf	3--Good	R--Reddish brown
T--Tips	4--Fair	D--Dark brown
X--Lugs	5--Low	M--Mixed
N--Nondescript		G--Green
S--Scrap		







